



On the Green—A publication for Gallaudet faculty, teachers, and staff
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Dr. Andersen named 'Outstanding Freshman Advocate'

As Gallaudet continues to focus on retaining freshman who, due to a variety of circumstances, may be on the verge of dropping out of school, it puts the situation in proper perspective to know that the University is not alone in its efforts. A new and very different generation of college goers has presented similar challenges to institutions of higher learning across the nation and in other parts of the world.

It is a great honor for Gallaudet that its Director of Freshman Studies, Orientation Programs, and Retention, Catherine Andersen, has been recognized as one of the nation's top Outstanding Freshman Advocates.

Dr. Andersen and nine other educators were selected from 140 nominees from two- and four-year colleges and universities across the nation. The Outstanding Freshman Advocates received their awards at the sixteenth National Freshman Year Experience Conference in Columbia, South Carolina, last year.

The annual conference is sponsored by the University of South Carolina's National Resource Center for the Freshman Year Experience and Students in Transition and the Houghton Mifflin Publishers, one of the nation's largest publishers of educational books.

During her 15-year career at Gallaudet, Andersen has held a variety of positions that directly involve first-year students. These include interim assistant dean of the former School of Preparatory Studies, special assistant to the Vice

President for Academic Affairs, and chair of Communication and Development Studies. In 1994 she received the President's Distinguished Faculty Award.

Andersen was cited by the national resource center for her leadership in Gallaudet's three-part program to help incoming first-year students adjust to college life. **College Bound** is offered to students even before they apply to the University to give them a glimpse of what Gallaudet is all about. They spend a week living in a residence hall, observing classes, visiting academic service units, and learning about Gallaudet's many programs.

Summer Bridge gives students planning to enter Gallaudet in the fall two weeks of intensive study in English and mathematics. **First Year Seminar** reinforces positive learning skills through workshops, interacting with faculty and staff mentors, and career planning.

Andersen also continues to look for ways to encourage faculty/student interaction and assist faculty and staff in working with first-year students.

"The honor is very significant to me," Andersen said of the award. "The University of South Carolina is the cutting edge," she explained, because its national resource center, now in its tenth year, has some of the most noted experts in the field and serves as a clearing house for all information and programs concerning first-year students and students in transition.

The movement to address freshman year retention has gained momentum over the past 10 years, said Andersen. The reason, she explained, is that college—once the realm of the privileged few—is open to almost anyone who is academically qualified. The proliferation of grants and scholarships, programs such as affirmative action, and a host of other incentives has made higher education a reality for people from all walks of life.

But although many barriers for admission to college have been knocked down, the new generation of college students faces unique challenges. Because of social and economic reasons, many students may not be prepared for the rigors of college academics. And for students in America who are from ethnic minorities, English may be a second language, which poses additional obstacles in learning.

Because the need is so universal for helping college freshmen during their first year, when they are particularly vulnerable to academic problems, it is useful in more ways than one to recognize outstanding individuals on college campuses whose programs are effective in keeping students in school. Not only is it an honor to be recognized as an Outstanding Freshman Advocate,



Dr. Catherine Andersen receives the Outstanding Freshman Advocate award from John Gardner (center), director of the University of South Carolina's National Resource Center for the Freshman Year Experience and Students in Transition, and Bill Webber, a former editor at Houghton Mifflin Publishing Company.

said Andersen, but it announces to the academic world that there are noted professionals in the field who can be contacted for advice. Andersen said that many educators, particularly from schools for deaf students, have contacted her since news of her award was publicized.

"I think what is most unique about Gallaudet is its academic diversity," said Andersen. Gallaudet, like most colleges and universities, sets criteria that prospective students must meet to gain admission. However, because Gallaudet's mission is to provide educational opportunities for *all* deaf and hard of hearing students who show the potential for success in college, it also accepts students with remedial learning needs.

Meeting the needs of diverse groups of new students is challenging, but Gallaudet has proven that it is up to the task, Andersen feels. "For an institution of its size, Gallaudet is at the forefront among first year experience programs."

Rakow winners announced

Winners of the 1997 Lillian Gourley Rakow Creative Writing Awards were announced at a December 2 dinner held for the contestants in Peikoff Alumni House.

The winners for the annual contest are chosen by class. Senior Jamie Lynn Marshall won \$1,500 for her entry, "Before Picasso"; junior Sara Stallard won \$750 for "Old Dan and Little Ann"; sophomore Sherry Pedersen won \$500 for "My Experience Being Pregnant";

and freshman Angela McNalley won \$250 for "Observations from the Niggerpatch."

Judges for the 1997 contest were John Canney, associate professor of English; Arlene Kelly, instructor in the Deaf Studies Department; and Agnes Padden, who retired in 1990 as an assistant professor of English.

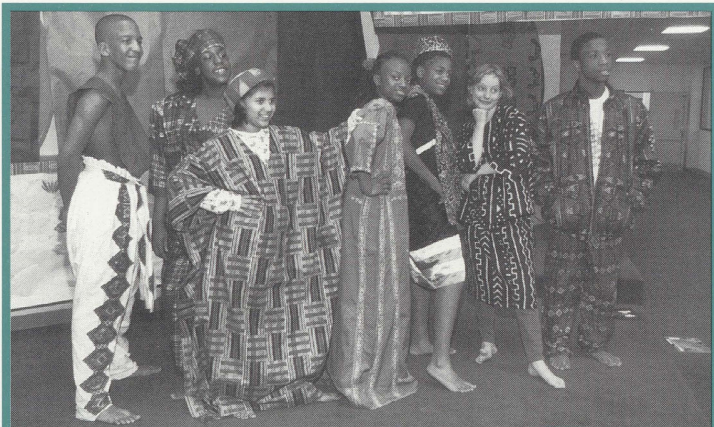
The Rakow Creative Writing Awards contest is a function of the English Department with support from the College of Arts and Sciences. Dr. Tonya Johnson, assistant professor of English, coordinated the 1997 contest.

Join the Celebrations!

The campus community is invited to attend DPN 10 anniversary kick-off celebrations at the University on Wednesday, January 21, and at Pre-College on Thursday, January 22.

The University event will take place in two parts. The first will be a ceremony to raise the official DPN 10 flag that will fly over the campus throughout the semester. After the flag raising, everyone will go to Peikoff Alumni House for refreshments and to receive their official DPN 10 button.

On the following day, KDES and MSSD will each have flag raising ceremonies at 9:45 a.m. and at 10:30 a.m., respectively. Gallaudet President I. King Jordan will give a brief address at each ceremony.



A sense of Africa—For two days in December, Kendall School staged an African Celebration. Students presented exhibits and activities on African Culture, geography, and history. They also choreographed a dance concert with MSSD students and presented a fashion show.

GUKCC announces special fees

ARAMARK is pleased to announce a \$59 transient guest room rate at the Gallaudet University Kellogg Conference Center, based upon availability. This rate is available to students, their families, alumni, faculty, staff, and special guests of Gallaudet. The best times to take advantage of this special rate are mid-December through mid-March, and mid-June through Labor Day.

The Bistro Restaurant, which features a weekday buffet lunch

GALLAUDET UNIVERSITY KELLOGG CONFERENCE CENTER

from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., will accept interdepartmental invoices for \$50 or more, as well as reservations for groups of 10 or more people. The Bistro also offers a continental breakfast and a "grab and go" breakfast between 7 and 9:30 a.m.

A new catering menu for groups is now in effect. The menu offers special rates for campus groups as well as the option of a "Complete Meeting Package" or buying a la carte.



DPN 10 calendar of events

Events celebrating the 10th anniversary of DPN are being scheduled throughout the spring semester. As they are planned, more events will be added to the master calendar. For the most up-to-date listing of events related to DPN, check the University's home page on the World Wide Web and click on the DPN logo.

January

21 and 22 DPN 10 celebration kick-offs at the University and at the Pre-College. (See article, page 1)

February

4 Fireside Chat with President Jordan and Board of Trustees members Phil Bravin and Laurel Glass, Peikoff Alumni House, upper level, 4-5 p.m.

11 The Next Millennium Teleconference Series Presents: "Reach for the Stars: You Can," a career forum for today's youth, 1-2:30 p.m.

26 DPN media panel: "DPN Success: The Media and the Message," location TBA, 2-4 p.m.

March

5 Fireside Chat with President Jordan, Peikoff Alumni House, upper level, 4-5 p.m.

7 DPN 10 Gala, The Grand Hyatt Hotel, (black tie preferred), Gallaudet students, \$20; other individuals, \$30; couples, \$50, 8 p.m.-1 a.m.

9 Panel discussion with DPN "Ducks", 7 p.m., GUKCC

10 Elisabeth Zinser presentation, 3 p.m., GUKCC

10 DPN student leaders' panel, 7 p.m., GUKCC

11 National Deaf Rights Day, march to the U.S. Capitol

12-13 "Deaf President Now Revisited" conference, sponsored by the School of Management, GUKCC, registration required

13 The Next Millennium Teleconference Series Presents: "Deaf President Now: The Pulse of the People" 10 years after the revolution, 1-3 p.m.

14 GUAA Annual Charter Day Banquet and Awards Program, GUKCC, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

April

16 Fireside Chat with President Jordan: "Looking Ahead to DPN 20," Peikoff Alumni House, upper level, 4-5 p.m.

24 The Next Millennium Teleconference Series Presents: "Academic Superbowl," deaf high school students battle wits, 4-5:30 p.m.



ASK AUNT SOPHIE

Dear Aunt Sophie,

A few weeks ago I went to that town hall meeting about the new building that will be put up where Hughes Gym is now. The students want a place where they can eat and hang out. Faculty want something that's filled with computers and other high tech gear. Can't we do both? I mean, why not make the new building into a *Dave & Buster's* like the one at White Flint Mall? Now there's a place that's both fun and high tech!

Idea Man

Dear Idea Man,

How shall I put this? Without making you feel like a complete idiot, that is. Perhaps the direct approach is best: *Are you crazy? Dave & Buster's? Ridiculous!*

[For readers unfamiliar with the place, *Dave & Buster's* is a glorified video game parlor with a bar and restaurant attached. Imagine the boardwalk at Ocean City on a hot July 4th weekend...that's D&B's.]

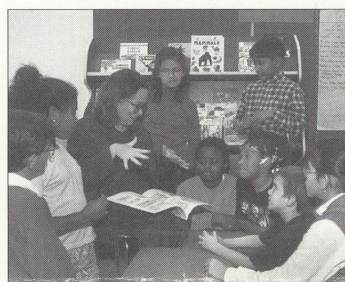
Let's get serious about the new building, shall we? Whatever it looks like inside and out, it has to send a strong message to the whole world, one that says that Gallaudet is at the thin edge of the knife in

terms of how technology is used to make our students' learning and living experiences top-notch.

In other words, the new building has to have the ability to produce the "Wow! Effect." Prospective students have to look at it and say to themselves, "Wow! Sign me up!" Parents have to see it and think, "Wow! What a great place for my son/daughter!" People thinking about donating money to Gallaudet have to come away thinking, "Wow! I want to invest in this dynamic university!" And yes, our students, faculty and staff have to be able to say, "Wow! I'm so lucky to be part of the Gallaudet community!"

How to achieve the "Wow! Effect" is another matter, of course. It's up to all of us, including you, Idea Man, to begin generating some serious suggestions of what the new building should contain. Be sure to send them to one of the co-chairs of the new building committee, Carl Pramuk (capramuk) or Catherine Dehoney (dv_dehoney).

If you have a burning question that you would like to ask Aunt Sophie, e-mail her at PUBLI-CREL. Be sure you say your question is for Aunt Sophie.



Dr. Jane Fernandes, vice president for Pre-College National Mission Programs, captures the attention of a group of Kendall students during a read aloud session.

skipping so that the students are exposed to all kinds of language structures. The whole meaning of the English words should be conveyed via ASL. A copy of the book should always be available in the classroom library for independent reading.

At the end of the session, Fernandes demonstrated her own read aloud techniques to the teachers. She sat comfortably in an arm chair and read aloud the first chapter of Sharon Creech's Newberry award-winning novel, *Walk Two Moons*. As she signed the story, she paused from time to time to engage the attention of the audience. Several teachers at MSSD, including one math teacher, were inspired by Fernandes' reading. They committed themselves to practice reading aloud good novels on a daily basis to their high school teams. **G**

Got any boxes?

PCNMP's Parent-Infant/Pre-School Program is in need of large appliance boxes for sculpture projects. Computer boxes will also be useful. Anyone who has these boxes or who expects to purchase appliances or computers in the near future is encouraged to save the boxes for the students' artwork.

E-mail Art Teacher/ Researcher Phillip Bogdan at PSBOGDAN to make donation arrangements.

PCNMP HAPPENINGS

PCNMP explores tips and techniques for reading aloud

By Susan M. Flanigan

A small but innovative part of the literacy programs at KDES and MSSD is their read aloud activity.

Vice President for Pre-College National Mission Programs Jane Fernandes recently met with Student Life teachers and other staff from Grades 6-12 to respond to frequently asked questions about reading aloud in the classroom.

Literacy Teacher Janet Weinstock and Parent-Infant/Pre-School Performing Arts Teacher/Researcher Angela Farrand also presented on read aloud techniques to KDES teachers and staff members who work with younger children through grade five.

The main focus of the read aloud program said Dr. Fernandes, "is to expose students to great literature written at a level above what a student can or will read independently. In a well designed reading program, students are exposed daily to text they can fully understand independently, to text they need to read with a teacher's guidance, and to text through reading aloud which is either above their guided reading level or is material a student might not choose to read on his or her own."

At the beginning of her talk, Fernandes displayed a constellation of literacy activities as a series of puzzle pieces. One of those pieces featured the read aloud program. She defined three parameters for reading aloud. First, she explained that adults and professional educators—not students—should serve as the models for reading aloud.

"When adults read to children they model their skills using two languages. They focus on words and phrases, helping students develop both English and ASL, and they work on development of vocabulary and phrases. The adults also model the importance of reading and encourage enthusiasm and respect for books."

Unlike "buddy readings," "pair and share," and other types of student-to-student shared reading strategies, read alouds should be led by adults.

Fernandes addressed a frequently asked question: Should the same book be read to all the students? "Yes," she said, "but it is not necessary for the students to listen as one large group." She suggested that the teams divide students into smaller groups with the adults reading the same book to every group. For hard of hearing students, the adult can read to the group orally or in speech/sign combination, as appropriate. The number of students in a group corresponds with the age of the students—for preschool, one-to-one or groups of two or three is appropriate; for young elementary, eight students is a good group size; and in high school, groups of 10 or 12 are acceptable.

Reading aloud should happen throughout the day at various times, Fernandes said. "Our goal is to immerse our students in adult models of literacy all day, every day, and throughout the day." She reminded the teachers that reading aloud means reading all the pages without

ALUMNI CONNECTION

Second annual alumni 'Basketball Madness' slated

By Daphne Cox McGregor, '82

The Office of Alumni Relations, the Department of Athletics, and the Bison Booster Club will sponsor the second annual alumni "Basketball Madness" in the Field House on Saturday, January 24, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Gallaudet and Marymount University will play four games in the event. For the first time, alumni (the "seniors"), made up of veteran players, will compete against Marymount's alumni. The varsity teams (the "juniors") will follow the alumni games.

Gallaudet and Marymount are both members of the Capital Athletic Conference, and they are known for their rivalry. Last year the Gallaudet women's team lost to Marymount in the conference championship game. This year, the women's team, made up of returning and new players with strong athletic skills and coached again by 21-year veteran Kitty Baldrige, is anxious to beat Marymount. The new coach for the Gallaudet men's team, John Becker, also looks forward to a winning game.

Come and root for the Bison when both the seniors and the juniors play long-time rival Marymount!

Schedule of Activities:

- Alumni women's basketball game, 11 a.m.-noon
- Alumni men's basketball game, noon-1 p.m.
- University women's basketball game, 2-4 p.m.
- University men's basketball game, 4-6 p.m.

The admission fee to all four games is five dollars for adults and three dollars for students. (One dollar from each ticket sold will go to the Gallaudet University Alumni Association Reunion Fund.) There is no charge for children ages 7 or under.

Food and beverages will be sold at the Bison Booster Club concession stand in the Field House.

For more information, contact Daphne Cox McGregor, '82, assistant director, Alumni Relations, x5081 (TTY), x5060 (V), or e-mail dcmcgregor. **G**

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